

1-19. (CANCELED)

20. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy at ground level for a land-borne ground level electrical feed [[type]] vehicle by a sliding contact with at least one polar part, the safety device comprising:

a collection blade (10) having a vehicle support holder (11) on an upper part of the collection blade (10);

a means (60) for raising the blade (10) and a means for electrically connecting the blade (10) to a feed circuit (62) of the vehicle, the blade (10) being electrically insulated from ground and any lane structures, a part of the blade (10) can spread apart two profile holding fixtures (23, 24), which are placed side-by-side facing each other opposite to one another, the two profile holding fixtures (23, 24) run either on the ground or in the ground along a lane, and are supported by a profile carrier support (21) having a bottom that is approximately flat and two lateral walls to form a collection assembly (9), collecting parts or areas of the blade (10) [[are]] has at least one surface (17, 18) that is maintained in direct sliding electrical contact along one of conductors or conducting parts (19, 20) which are supported by each profile holding fixture (23, 24), each of the profile holding fixtures (23, 24) is provided along an entire length, with one of an elastic restoring return (25) or a series of separate restoring returns (52) to urge one of the profile holding fixtures (23, 24) towards the other adjacent holding fixture one of the profile holding fixtures (23, 24) by one of elastic compressibility means elastic compression engendering locally [[an]] the elastic restoring force to bring urge the profile holding fixtures (23, 24) together after lateral compression or a series of discontinuous localized separate restoring devices.

21. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy at ground level according to claim 20, wherein the elastic compressibility means the one of an elastic restoring return (25) or the series of separate restoring returns (52) engendering locally the elastic recall restoring force for

at least one of the two profile holding fixtures (23, 24) is a tubular elastic profile body (25, 26) that is subjected to lateral compression and is housed in a space located between the profile holding fixture (23, 24) and the corresponding lateral wall of the profile carrier support (21) of the collection assembly (9).

22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy at ground level according to claim 20, wherein a body of the blade (10) is a flat piece (12) with a forward beveled edge (14) and a lower extremity in a form of a bulge in a shape of a longitudinal block (15), the longitudinal block (15) has two flat lateral edges (17, 18), and at least one of the two flat lateral edges (17, 18) is in sliding contact with one of the facing conductor or conducting part (19, 20) supported by the corresponding profile holding fixture (23, 24).

23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy at ground level according to claim 20, wherein each conductor (19, 20) is connected to a different electrical phase and feeds the blade (10) via two electrical pathways.

24. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy at ground level according to claim 23, wherein the collection blade (10) is a composite structure with two different conducting parts that are insulated from one another and are each connected to a different electrical phase.

25. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy at ground level according to claim 20, wherein the profile holding fixtures (23, 24) are made of a flexible insulating material so as to permit a gap for clear passage of the blade (10).

26. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy at ground level according to claim 20, wherein the conductors (19, 20) are inserted into a slot provided in a cavity ~~of an edge along a surface~~ of one of the ✓

profile holding fixtures (23, 24) ~~facing another, which faces the other~~ one of the profile holding fixtures (23, 24). ✓

27. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy at ground level according to claim 20, wherein the profile carrier support (21) is buried and the surface of the ground is protected, at the surface of the ground, by a protection (28) in a shape of an insulating cover that is opened by passage of the blade (10), and the insulating cover closes after the blade (10) passes thereby.

28. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy at ground level according to claim [[27]] 20, wherein an upper surface of the profile carrier support (21) is equipped with [[the]] a protection (28) in the shape of an insulating cover that opens with the passage of the blade (10) and closes after the blade (10) passes thereby. ✓

29. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy at ground level according to claim 20, wherein ~~the device for electrical collection feeds a~~ the land-borne ground level electrical feed vehicle ~~is~~ guided by a central rail of a guidance assembly at ground level (8). ✓

30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy at ground level according to claim 20, wherein the blade (10) is connected to a guidance arm (42) of the vehicle.

31. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy at ground level according to claim 20, wherein the safety device further comprises a guide rail having two semi-rails (29, 30) installed side-by-side, and a guide roller (40, 41) of a guidance assembly (42) of the vehicle rolls on each of the two semi-rails (29, 30).

32. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy at ground level according to claim 31, wherein each of the two semi-rails (29, 30) has a general transverse shape in the form of a U consisting of a rail riser

wing (31) terminated at a top in a rail conformation (32), a base (33) and a longitudinal return toward the top forming a lateral wall (34) which terminates in an upper edge (35) that turns back toward an interior.

33. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy at ground level according to claim 32, wherein the rail riser wing (31) has a thick core (36) and a head (37) which, when viewed in cross-section, has a shape of a hook and comprises, on an external side, a linear projection formed of a rolling track (39) on which rolls a load bearing surface of one of the guide rollers (40, 41), the rolling track (39) is bordered sloped toward a bottom with an inclined ramp (43) and on an other side, with a flat, horizontal edge (44) and on an inner side, the conformation consists of a flat horizontal abutment edge (45) followed by a perpendicular edge with a middle receiver slot (46), the conformation constituting a reception surface for a linear watertight joint (47).

34. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy at ground level according to claims 33, wherein a space between the lateral wall and the thick core (36) is filled by a flexible joint (38) which has an inclined upper face, the flexible joint (38) is immobilized between these walls and an upper edge (35) turns back toward an interior.

35. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy at ground level according to claim 31, wherein the collection blade (10) traverses the guide rail and a composite joint (47), two parts of the composite joint (47) spread apart or are raised locally when the blade (10) passes, and recoil after passage of the blade (10).

36. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy at ground level according to claim 35, wherein the composite joint (47) is formed from two linear joints (48, 49) which are installed in a side-by-side manner such that their edges meet with one another in a middle section of the composite joint

(47), and opposite extremities of two linear joints (48, 49) constitute a linear pivoting articulation with a facing conformation of an extremity of the corresponding semi-rail (29, 30).

37. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy at ground level according to claim 20, wherein ~~the reinforced safety device is intended for a vehicle~~ the land-borne ground level electrical feed vehicle is guided by ~~the ground level electrical energy collection assembly moving along a reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy which comprises~~ a guide rail. ✓

38. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy at ground level according to claim 20, wherein ~~the reinforced safety device is intended for a vehicle~~ the land-borne ground level electrical feed vehicle is guided by other than ~~the ground level electrical energy collection assembly moving along a guide rail~~ a reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy. ✓

39. (NEW) A reinforced safety device for collecting electrical energy at ground level for a land-borne ground level electrical feed vehicle by a sliding contact with at least one polar part, the safety device comprising: ✓

a collection blade (10) having a vehicle support holder (11) on an upper part of the collection blade (10);

a means (60) for raising the blade (10) and a means for electrically connecting the blade (10) to a feed circuit (62) of the vehicle, the blade (10) being electrically insulated from ground and any lane structures, a part of the blade (10) can spread apart two profile holding fixtures (23, 24), which are placed side-by-side facing each other opposite to one another, the two profile holding fixtures (23, 24) run either on the ground or in the ground along a lane, and are supported by a profile carrier support (21) having a bottom that is approximately flat and two lateral walls to form a collection assembly (9), the blade (10) has at least one surface (17, 18) that is maintained in sliding electrical contact along one of conductors or

conducting parts (19, 20) which are supported by each profile holding fixture (23, 24), each of the profile holding fixtures (23, 24) is provided, along an entire length, with elastic restoring return towards the other adjacent holding fixture by one of elastic compressible means or a series of discontinuous localized separate restoring devices engendering locally an elastic restoring force to urge the profile holding fixtures (23, 24) together after lateral compression;

the elastic compressible means engendering locally the elastic restoring force for at least one of the two profile holding fixtures (23, 24) is a tubular elastic profile body (25, 26) that is subjected to lateral compression and is housed in a space located between the profile holding fixture (23, 24) and the corresponding lateral wall of the profile carrier support (21) of the collection assembly (9).